PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

REC'D	17	FEB	2006
WIPO			PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: ITOH, Tadahiko 32nd Floor, Yebisu Garden Place Tower, 20 -3, Ebisu 4-chome, Shibuya -ku, Tokyo 1506032 Japan

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43 bis.1)

See paragraph 2 below

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

FOR FURTHER ACTION

14.02.2006

Applicant's or agent's file reference R05224PCT

Priority date (day/month/year)

International application No. PCT/JP2005/022504

International filing date (day/month/year). 01.12.2005

01.12.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int.Cl. B41J2/165 (2006.01), B41J2/01 (2006.01)

Applicant

RICOH COMPANY, LTD.

1.	This c	pinion contains	indications relating to the following items:
	S	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
	173	Box No. II	Priority
		Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
		Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
	Ŕ	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
		Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
		Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
		Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

1	Date of completion of this opinion 03.02.200	6			
	Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Authorized officer		2P	9110
	Japan Patent Office	Toshihiko OSAKI			
	3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101	Ext.	3261	

Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (April 2005)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/JP2005/022504

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:		Box	k No. I	Basis of the	opinion		•				. <u>. </u>	
the international application in the language in which it was filed a translation of the international application into translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)). 2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of: a. type of material a sequence listing table(s) related to the sequence listing b. format of material on paper in electronic form c. time of filing/furnishing filed together with the international application as filed filed together with the international application in electronic form furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.	_	1.	With r	egard to the lang	uage, this opini	ion has been	established or	n the basis of	£:			
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4. Additional comments:				in the application	as filed or doe	s not go beyo	ond the appli	ication as fil	led, as appropri	ate, were furn	ished.	10 11101
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/022504

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis. 1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	6,8,9	YES
	Claims	1-5,7	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
•	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

D1:JP 2004-284084 A (RICOH COMPANY, LTD.) 2004.10.14, paragraph 0016-0104, figures 1-9 (family none)

D2:JP 2003-231265 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA) 2003.08.19, claims 1,4,6,7,paragraph 0012-0059,figures 1-8 (family none)

D3:JP 2004-182392 A (RICOH COMPANY, LTD.) 2004.07.02, paragraph 0023-0037, figures 1-4 (family none)

D4:JP 2000-246981 A (RICOH COMPANY, LTD.) 2000.09.12, claim 2,paragraph 0019-0059,figures 1-16 (family none)

The subject matter of claims 1-5 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of the D1 cited in the ISR and the D2 cited in the same.

D1 discloses the image forming apparatus comprising the recording head, the electrostatic adsorption conveyer and the cleaning device.

D2 discloses the cleaning device of the ink-jet printer, which is the technical feature of the invention of claims 1-5.

Technical features disclosed in Dl and D2 respectively are related to similar technical fields. Therefore, the skilled person in the art would easily conceive the idea of employing the cleaning device in D2 to substitute the cleaning device disclosed in D1.

The subject matter of claim 7 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of the D1, D2, and D3 or D4, cited in the ISR.

D3 and D4 disclose, respectively, the method to control the electrostatic adsorption conveyer, which is described in claim 7.

The subject matter of claims 6, 8, 9 is neither disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

REC'D	17	FEB	2006
WIPO			PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
ITOH, Tadahiko

32nd Floor, Yebisu Garden Place
Tower, 20 -3, Ebisu
4-chome, Shibuya -ku, Tokyo
1506032 Japan

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY
(PCT Rule 43 bis.1)

(PCT Rule 43 bis.1) Date of mailing 14.02.2006 (day/month/year) FOR FURTHER ACTION Applicant's or agent's file reference See paragraph 2 below R05224PCT Priority date (day/month/year) International filing date (day/month/year) International application No. 01.12.2004 01.12.2005 PCT/JP2005/022504 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int.Cl. B41J2/165(2006.01), B41J2/01(2006.01) Applicant RICOH COMPANY, LTD.

1.	This o	pinion contains	indications relating to the following items:
	Y	Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
	T:	Box No. II	Priority
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	For f	urther options, s	see Form PCT/ISA/220.
3.	For f	urther details, se	ee notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Date of completion of this opinion 03.02.2000				
Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Authorized officer	-	2P	9110
Japan Patent Office 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan	Toshihiko OSAKI Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101	Ext.	3261	

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/022504

Во	x No. I	Basis of the opinion	
1.	With regar	rd to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:	
•		international application in the language in which it was filed	
	_ :		which is the language of a
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	T:	a sequence listing	
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	c. time of	filing/furnishing	
		contained in the international application as filed	•
	<u> </u>	filed together with the international application in electronic form	
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		the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate	
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4.	Additional	comments:	
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/022504

Statement			•
Novelty (N)	Claims Claims	1-9	YES NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims Claims	6,8,9 1-5,7	YES NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims Claims	1-9	YES NO

2. Citations and explanations:

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D3 and D4 disclose, respectively, the method to control the electrostatic adsorption conveyer, which is described in claim 7.

The subject matter of claims 6, 8, 9 is neither disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.